REMARKS

Reconsideration of this application is respectfully requested in view of the following remarks.

Claims 37 and 38 have been rewritten in independent form to overcome the objections to these claims. It is Applicants position that "consisting of" does in fact limit the claim to being made only of glass or glass ceramic as provided by the respective claim: thus claims 37 and 38 already further limited claims 14 and 29 respectively by excluding additional materials, e.g., metal, from being incorporated into the claimed plate.

The Examiner finally rejected claims 15, 16, 18-23 and 29-37 as allegedly obvious over Colvin in view of Lorenz. Applicants respectfully traverse.

As taught at page 1, third paragraph, of the instant specification, glass and glass ceramic plates require a safety edging to protect sharp edges and to enable the plate to be held in a tension-free manner. It is an object of the presently claimed invention to provide a glass or glass ceramic plate in which the safe edge is improved and simplified. As mentioned at page 8, a glass plate according to the invention may be prepared by rolling a glass plate flat and appropriately shaping it, and then it may be heated in the green state and shaped in the marginal area with a shaping tool so as to form the profile portion.

Colvin pertains to a hot plate consisting of a case iron substrate having on its upper surface a vitreous enamel casting. This cast iron substrate has a peripheral rim 16 to overcome problems with fat seepage Colvin does not suggest to include a safety edge formed integrally with the plate or with a glass or glass ceramic plate.

In Colvin, a safety edge is not a problem since the hot plate is formed out of cast iron so that there are no difficulties with the outer edge because the impact strength or the resistance to impact of cast iron is much higher than of glass or glass ceramics.

Lorenz discloses an electric cooking appliance with a sheet steel, glass, ceramic or glass ceramic carrier plate. Lorenz does not pertain to the problems with the edges of a glass, ceramic or glass ceramic carrier plate, nor does Lorenz disclose that such edges have to be stable and

protected. Further, Lorenz only discloses several possibilities for the mounting of such glass ceramic plate but does not address the problems with the edges of such glass or glass ceramic plates. As is apparent from the Figs. 4 to 7, the glass ceramic plates according to Lorenz still have sharp edges; therefore, Lorenz has not addressed the problem solved in accordance with the present invention.

In summary, neither Colvin nor Lorenz teach or suggest providing a safety edge formed by a cross-sectional profiled portion thickener than the thickness of the plate as presently claimed. Thus, a person skilled in the art trying to solve the problem that the edges of a glass or glass ceramic plate should be simplified but have a high impact strength is not taught by Colvin nor by Lorenz to form a safety edge as claimed.

If any fees are due for entry of this amendment, authorization is given to charge deposit account no. 50-0624.

Respectfully submitted,

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